

Common Facility Centre - Speculations & Evidence for Environment Protection and Sustainable Livelihood of the Tribal Communities: A Case of Rural Orissa, India

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ABSTRACT

Whether Information and Communication Technology (ICT) constitutes a threat or a cure to environment's deterioration is controversially discussed. Lack of access limits the opportunity of the people to improve and sustain their social and economic well-being. Empirical evidence on the impacts of ICT is rare, so that generalisable lessons can be drawn is sparse. A project 'Project Sanjog' was undertaken for improving the livelihoods and conditions of isolated tribal communities in a cluster of tribal villages in rural Orissa through improved access to information and infrastructure service. This paper addresses exactly this critique by providing empirical results on the role of ICT in for environmental protection and sustainable livelihood of tribal communities through establishing Common Facility Centre in a cluster of tribal villages of Orissa State in India.

KEYWORDS: ICT, Indigenous, Mobility, Livelihood, Environment